AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim [[1]] 3, further comprising the step of posing instructions in the auxiliary program as to which information regarding the computer should be investigated.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 1,~~ A method for checking a functioning of a computer, the computer, in a normal operating state, accessing a working memory using bus lines, a content of the working memory being able to be influenced by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

diverting an access of the computer, by a switchover device, such that the access is directed to an alternate memory rather than to the working memory; and

executing an auxiliary program in the alternate memory when activated by the computer, the auxiliary program making available information concerning internal operating states of the computer;

wherein the auxiliary program contains program steps that cause the computer to give a content of internal registers and ports to a bus using a write instruction for a certain address.

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, further comprising the step of reading out, by the user, a memory in an address area.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim [[1]] 3, further comprising the step of executing an instruction in an alternate program area for causing the computer to begin processing an analysis program and for activating the auxiliary program.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 5,~~ A method for checking a functioning of a computer, the computer, in a normal operating state, accessing a working memory using bus lines, a content of the working memory being able to be influenced by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

    diverting an access of the computer, by a switchover device, such that the access is directed to an alternate memory rather than to the working memory;

    executing an auxiliary program in the alternate memory when activated by the computer, the auxiliary program making available information concerning internal operating states of the computer; and

    executing an instruction in an alternate program area for causing the computer to begin processing an analysis program and for activating the auxiliary program;

    wherein the alternate program ~~memory~~ area contains a first program module and a second program module of greater importance than the first program module, and further comprising the step of writing the instruction into the first program module.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:~~ A method for checking a functioning of a computer, the computer, in a normal operating state, accessing a working memory using bus lines, a content of the working memory being able to be influenced by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

    diverting an access of the computer, by a switchover device, such that the access is directed to an alternate memory rather than to the working memory; and

    executing an auxiliary program in the alternate memory when activated by the computer, the auxiliary program making available information concerning internal operating states of the computer;

    using an operating system, generating a query as to whether an analysis of the computer should be undertaken; and

    using the operating system, activating an analysis program if the query is answered affirmatively.

8. (Canceled).

9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of~~ A method for checking a functioning of a computer, the computer, in a normal operating state, accessing a working memory using bus lines, a content of the working memory being able to be influenced by a user, the method comprising the steps of:

diverting an access of the computer, by a switchover device, such that the access is directed to an alternate memory rather than to the working memory;

executing an auxiliary program in the alternate memory when activated by the computer, the auxiliary program making available information concerning internal operating states of the computer; and

performing a check periodically to determine whether there is a request from an outside source to process the auxiliary program.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, further comprising the step of executing an analysis program in response to determining that the request has been provided.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 9, wherein one of a jump instruction and an interrupt instruction is provided at a predetermined memory location to start processing an analysis program.